المجلس الإسلامي
Islamic Council

PRESS RELEASE
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KING HASSAN'S BLATANT VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

In a statement issued today, the London-based Islamic Council expressed outrage and indignation at the reign of terror let loose by King Hassan's regime in Morocco.

In the most recent incident, Hassan's police arrested several hundred Moroccans demonstrating in Rabat against the unjust arrest of six Islamic leaders. According to reliable reports the demonstrators were beaten mercilessly by the police.

It is clear that King Hassan does not believe in the concept of human rights. He does not seem to realize, despite his claim to be "Commander of the Faithful", that Islam has conferred generous human rights on mankind and that no ruler, however mighty, has the authority to deny them to the people. In blatantly and arrogantly violating the God-given rights, King Hassan has been defying Divine injunctions and yet he has the cheek to call himself, "Commander of the Faithful".

The ever-worsening human rights record of King Hassan has been the subject of many reports by the media and human rights organisations, including Amnesty International. But they have had no effect on King Hassan and he continues to rule in the manner of a medieval despot.

To hoodwink his people struggling for human rights, King Hassan has appointed a Special Council of 40 members to advise him on human rights issues. This is nothing but a ruse to deceive his people.

Another ugly face of King Hassan's rule, the statement said, was his insatiable appetite for grand Palaces. Despite

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already having 9 magnificient Palaces all over the country, the King inaugurated his 10th, at a cost of 360 million dollars, in Agadir in March this year. To add insult to injury, in his first speech from his Agadir Palace, King Hassan stressed upon his poor people the need to tighten their belts and cut all expenditures as the country was experiencing increasing trade and budget deficits.

The statement drew the attention of King Hassan to the fact that respect for the Islamic code of Human Rights is far greater in the eyes of God and the people than the building of grand palaces in a country which is burdened heavily by foreign debts and many of whose people do not have even the necessities of life.

The statement concluded by appealing to human rights organisations and all those who believe in the respect of human rights to prevail upon King Hassan to end the mockery of the trials of political prisoners and to set them all free.